

TO: SD Child Nutrition Programs  
FROM: Child and Adult Nutrition Services  
Sandra Kangas, Supervisor  
Amy Richards, MS, RD, LN  
DATE: August 29, 2006  
RE: Eat Smart. Play Hard in SD Tour--November 6-22

Child and Adult Nutrition Services, Team Nutrition and Action for Healthy Kids are putting together a tour of the Power Panther, the mascot of the USDA's Eat Smart. Play Hard Campaign. This is an opportunity to use the Power Panther costume for the implementation of your wellness policy or to call attention to other events that focus on nutrition or physical activity! The Power Panther costume will be in South Dakota from November 6 to November 22, 2006.

Volunteers from CANS, Team Nutrition, and Action for Healthy Kids will be traveling with Power Panther on parts of the Panther's journey across South Dakota. Plans are for the Power Panther to stop at state attractions such as Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Falls Park, and the Corn Palace to promote the South Dakota Tour. If you would like for children or students from your school, after school program, or childcare site to join the Power Panther at one of these sites or if you would like to suggest another site including your school, after school site or childcare site, please complete the site application form that is included. Even if it doesn't work for your site to have students go on an outing or participate in an organized onsite event, please let us know if you would like us to stop for a quick visit to your cafeteria, classroom or pep assembly as the Panther is traveling by your town.

**Deadline for applications is September 25.** The Power Panther Tour route will be based upon the geographical requests we receive so he can get to as many sites as possible. Once the route has been determined, we will let you know what day he will be at your site (changes could occur if inclement weather occurs).

Would you like help planning what to do with the Power Panther? Please contact Kris Sands at [krissands@alliancecom.net](mailto:krissands@alliancecom.net) and she would be happy to help you access and order free Power Panther stickers, table tents, posters and fun ideas for activities for your event as well as download Power Panther songs that can be played for activities. More information about the Power Panther and the Eat Smart. Play Hard Campaign is available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/eatsmartplayhard/Collection/main.html>. The booklet Popular Team Nutrition Events is also a great resource. A copy can be ordered directly from USDA at <http://teamnutrition.usda.gov/library.html>.